

Mountain chains

Oceans once existed where we see mountains today. Mountain chains are formed and oceans are squeezed away as continents squash together.

Q1. What is the name of the outer layer of the earth that contains continents and oceans?

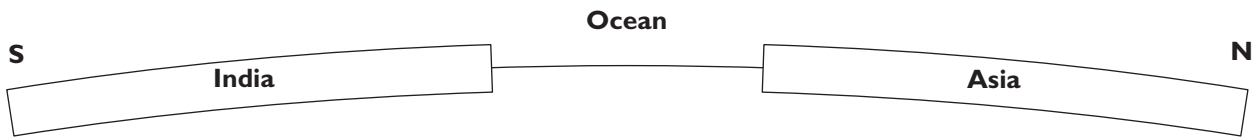


Q2. What happens when two continents collide?



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Q3. The diagram below shows a side view of where India and Asia used to be many millions of years ago. Then India began to move towards Asia. Put an arrow on the diagram to show this movement.

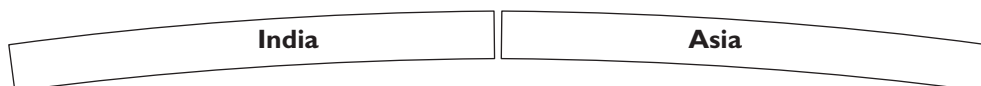


Q4. What happened to the ocean as India collided with Asia?



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Q5. Mark on this diagram the place where the Himalayas formed.





Answers

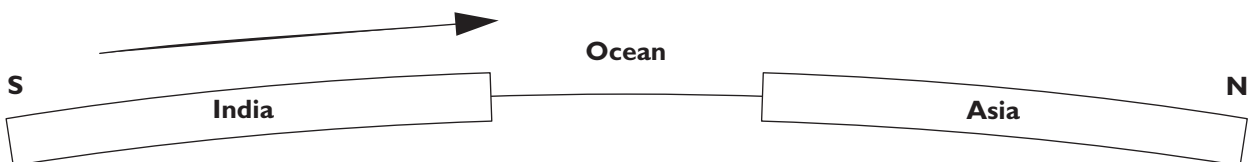
Notes

1. Crust/crustal plates.

2. A chain of fold mountains is formed and oceans are squashed away.

3. See diagram below.

In fact the ocean floor is pushed below the continent.



4. It was squeezed out of the way.

The important point is that the mountains occurred on the edge of the former continent. Because two continents came together, the mountains now appear to have been formed in the middle of a continent – but they weren't. This is a very important point because it allows us to say that mountain chains are formed by just one process.

5. See diagram below.

